

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 4297, Tax Relief Extension Reconciliation Act.

The House passed H.R. 5122, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4385–S4506

Measures Introduced: Thirteen bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2783–2795, S. Res. 474–475, and S. Con. Res. 94. **Pages S4468–69**

Measures Passed:

National Public Works Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 475, proclaiming the week of May 21 through May 27, 2006, as “National Public Works Week”. **Pages S4503–04**

Indian Youth Telemental Health Demonstration Project Act: Senate passed S. 2245, to establish an Indian youth telemental health demonstration project. **Pages S4504–05**

Health Insurance Marketplace Modernization and Affordability Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 1955, to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Security Act of 1974 and the Public Health Service Act to expand health care access and reduce costs through the creation of small business health plans and through modernization of the health insurance marketplace, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S4447–60**

Pending:

Committee Modified Amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S4447**

Frist Amendment No. 3886 (to S. 1955 (committee substitute) as modified), to establish the enactment date. **Page S4447**

Frist Amendment No. 3887 (to Amendment No. 3886), to change the enactment date. **Page S4447**

Motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, with instruc-

tions to report back forthwith, with Frist Amendment No. 3888, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S4447**

Frist Amendment No. 3889 (to the instructions of the motion to recommit), to change the enactment date. **Page S4447**

Frist Amendment No. 3890 (to Amendment No. 3889), to provide for the enactment date. **Page S4447**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 55 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 119), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the modified committee substitute. **Page S4460**

Tax Relief Extension Reconciliation Act Conference Report: By 54 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 118), Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 4297, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201(b) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S4385–S4447**

Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that on Monday, May 15, 2006, at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, after consultation with the Democratic Leader, Senate proceed to the consideration of S. 2611, to provide for comprehensive immigration reform, or a House bill on which the Senate and House conference, using the language of S. 2611; provided that when the Senate agrees to a request for a conference, or the Senate requests a conference on S. 2611, or a House bill, as amended with the language of S. 2611, as amended, if amended, the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate with the ratio of conferees being 14 to 12; provided further, that from that ratio, the first 7 Republican Senators from the

Committee on the Judiciary and the first 5 Democratic Senators from the Committee on the Judiciary be conferees, and that the Majority Leader select the final 7 conferees for the Majority side and the Democratic Leader select the final 7 conferees for the Minority side.

Pages S4385–86

Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that on Tuesday, May 16, 2006, Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the nomination of Milan D. Smith, Jr., of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit; provided further, that prior to the vote there be 15 minutes for debate equally divided between the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on the Judiciary, and Senator Smith, and that at the expiration or yielding back of time, Senate proceed to a vote on confirmation of the nomination.

Page S4503

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

William H. Tobey, of Connecticut, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation, National Nuclear Security Administration.

Gayleatha Beatrice Brown, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Benin.

Peter R. Coneway, of Texas, to be Ambassador to Switzerland, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Liechtenstein.

Christina B. Rocca, of Virginia, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the Conference on Disarmament.

Thomas D. Anderson, of Vermont, to be United States Attorney for the District of Vermont for the term of four years.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Navy.

Pages S4505–06

Messages From the House: **Page S4467**

Measures Referred: **Page S4467**

Measures Read First Time: **Pages S4467, S4503**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S4467**

Executive Communications: **Pages S4467–68**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S4468**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S4469–70**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S4471–78

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S4478–S4502**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Pages S4502–03**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S4503**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S4503**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—119) **Pages S4446, S4460**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 7:26 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Friday, May 12, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4505.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

AVIAN INFLUENZA

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Department of Agriculture's national response plan to detect and control the potential spread of Avian Influenza into the United States, focusing on the Implementation Plan for the National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza, and migratory bird surveillance, after receiving testimony from Ron DeHaven, Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture.

NOMINATION

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Robert J. Portman, of Ohio, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Bunning and DeWine, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

IRAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing to examine Iran's nuclear program and the impact of potential sanctions from Robert Walpole, Deputy Director for Strategy and Evaluation, National Counter-proliferation Center, and S. Leslie Ireland, Mission Manager for Iran, both of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence; and Paul E. Simons, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Energy, Sanctions and Commodities, Bureau of Economics and Business Affairs.

BUSINESS MEETING: NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Brett M. Kavanaugh, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, and Sean F. Cox and Thomas L. Ludington, both to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.